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Asides . . . and affronts

Scoop

Kremlin watchers got a chuckle from the news of Konstantin Chernenko's death. First, word of the Soviet president's demise didn't come from Tass or any of the various wire services. It came from — who else? — Victor Louis.

Comrade Louis scooped the world when he disclosed to the Israeli newspaper *Yediot Ahronoth* that Mr. C had checked out. In case you're wondering, Mr. Louis is a world-class KGB agent who poses as a journalist. Real name: Vitaly Levin.